

Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY S/S-O:RBELL

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S E C R E T STATE 218828

EXDIS/TODEP 107

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (INGERSOLL, ROBERT S.)

SUBJECT:SPECIAL SUMMARY NUMBER 13 FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY:
TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY

1 PORTUGAL: AZEVEDO'S PROGRAM A MAJOR SHIFT?

EMBASSY LISBON TENDERS ITS ANALYSIS OF AZEVEDO'S
SEPTEMBER 13 SPEECH IN WHICH HE PRESENTED THE PROGRAM
OF THE SIXTH PROVISIONAL GOP. NOTING THAT, ON PAPER
AT LEAST, THE PLATFORM REPRESENTS A MAJOR SHIFT IN
GOVERNMENT POLICY, THE EMBASSY COMMENTS:

--THE PROGRAM REFLECTS THE CONDITIONS IMPOSED BY
THE SOCIALISTS AND AGREED TO BY THE PPD FOR ENTRANCE
INTO THE GOVERNMENT.

--THE PCP HAS VERY LITTLE TO BE HAPPY ABOUT OTHER THAN
THAT NO "REVOLUTIONARY GAINS" WILL BE REVERSED.

--A GREAT DEAL WILL DEPEND ON THE NAMES OF THE NEW
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MINISTERS--ANTUNES' RETURN TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY

IS A POSITIVE SIGN.

OF OVERRIDING IMPORTANCE, THE EMBASSY NOTES, WILL BE THE CAPACITY OF THE GOVERNMENT TO IMPOSE ITS AUTHORITY ON A DISINTEGRATING MILITARY IN ORDER TO HAVE AN EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT TO ENFORCE THE DIFFICULT ECONOMIC MEASURES THE GOVERNMENT MUST TAKE.

SEE ITEM 1 OF INTELLIGENCE SUMMARY

2 SOVIET VIEWS OF ASIA: JAPAN IN THE MIDDLE

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EMBASSY MOSCOW REPORTS THE MARKED TENDENCY OF SOVIET MEDIA LATELY TO FOCUS ON JAPAN AS THE LINK BETWEEN US AND CHINESE ATTEMPTS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR OWN POSITIONS IN ASIA. SOVIET COMMENTATORS:

--DENOUNCE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S ALLEGED PLAN TO HAVE JAPAN ASSUME A MORE ACTIVE MILITARY ROLE IN ASIA;

--EXCORIATE PEKING'S EFFORTS TO DRAW JAPAN INTO AN ANTI-SOVIET ALLIANCE VIA THE "HEGEMONISTIC" PEACE TREATY;

--HINT DARKLY THAT PEKING'S AND WASHINGTON'S EFFORTS ARE COMPLIMENTARY; AND

--PRESCRIBE THEIR ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PROPOSAL TO BRING DETENTE TO THE AREA.

EMBASSY COMMENT: ANTI-PEKING PROPOGANDA IN THE SOVIET MEDIA TAKES VARIOUS FORMS, BUT JAPAN IS GETTING A LARGER THAN USUAL DOSE OF FALLOUT. IN THE CONVERGENCE OF SECRETARY SCHLESINGER'S VISIT AND RENEWED SPECULATION ABOUT THE TREATY WITH CHINA THE SOVIETS SEEM TO SEE THE OUTLINES OF A MONSTROUS POSSIBILITY--A US-JAPAN-CHINA QUASI-ALLIANCE.

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A. SAG WANTS PRICES FROZEN

PRINCE SAUD TOLD THE SAUDI PRESS SEPTEMBER 13:

--THE SAG HOPES THAT OIL PRICES WILL REMAIN AS THEY ARE UNTIL NEXT JANUARY.

--FROM A PURELY ECONOMIC VIEWPOINT, IT WOULD BE USELESS TO RAISE PRICES AT A TIME WHEN DEMAND IS LOW.

B. ALGERIAN VIEWS ON ENERGY SITUATION

DURING A MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR PARKER, ALGERIAN MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND ENERGY ABDESSALAM SAID:

--AN INCREASE IN THE PRICES OF OPEC OIL OF ABOUT 15 PERCENT IS PROBABLY NECESSARY, BUT THE GOA IS READY THEREAFTER TO ACCEPT A PRICE FREEZE FOR A CERTAIN TIME.

--ALGERIA, AS WELL AS SAUDIA ARABIA, WISHES TO SEE A SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION OF FINANCIAL AND MONETARY ISSUES AT THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE AND CONSIDERS THE US THE STRONGEST OPPONENT OF SUCH DISCUSSIONS.

C. UAEG TEMPORIZES

EMBASSY ABU DHABI REPORTS A CONVERSATION WITH UNITED ARAB EMIRATES PETROLEUM MINISTER OTAIBA IN WHICH HE STATED:

--THE UAE IS A SMALL COUNTRY WITH ONLY LIMITED ABILITY TO INFLUENCE OPEC'S COURSE.

--HIS GOVERNMENT IS DEFINITELY OPPOSED TO LARGE PRICE INCREASES.

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--THE UAE FAVORS GIVING THE PRODUCER-CONSUMER DIALOGUE A CHANCE TO WORK BEFORE MAKING COMMITMENTS.

EMBASSY COMMENT: OTAIBA HAS GENUINE UNDERSTANDING FOR AND SYMPATHY WITH OUR VIEWS ON THE OIL PRICE DECISION. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS DOUBTFUL THAT THE UAE IS TOTALLY CONVINCED THAT NO PRICE INCREASE IS JUSTIFIED. WE CAN HARDLY EXPECT THE UAEG TO BE OUT IN FRONT TRYING TO HOLD THE LINE.

4. SAHARAN ROUNDUP

MOROCCO BROKE ITS PUBLIC SILENCE ON THE SPANISH-PROPOSED SAHARA NEGOTIATIONS UNDER UN AUSPICES BY REJECTING

THE IDEA OF QUADRAPARTITE TALKS. THE GOM:

--NONETHELESS LEFT THE DOOR AJAR BY PROPOSING AN EXPANSION OF THE CONFERENCE TO SIX INCLUDING TUNISIA AND LIBYA;

--REMAINS CONCERNED ABOUT A POSSIBLE UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY THE SPANISH-ALGERIAN SIDE WITH F POLISARIO ASSUMING A MAJORITY ROLE.

--CONTINUES TO HOPE THE ICJ AND UNGA PROCESSES WILL NOT FORECLOSE ITS POLITICAL OPTIONS.

5. ISRAEL CAUSING SNAG AT GENEVA?

AMBASSADOR EILTS REPORTS THAT EGYPTIAN FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMY IS VERY MUCH CONCERNED ABOUT THE POSITION THE ISRAELI DELEGATION AT GENEVA HAS TAKEN WITH REGARD TO CERTAIN WATER WELLS ADJACENT TO THE ABU RUDEIS OIL FIELDS. FAHMY SAYS THAT THE ISRAELIS WISH TO RETURN THE FIELDS WITHOUT THE WELLS, SOMETHING HE CONSIDERS INCONSISTENT WITH THE SPIRIT OF THE INTERIM AGREEMENT. HE WISHED THIS MATTER BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF SECRETARY KISSINGER IN THE HOPE THAT THE US MIGHT INTERVENE WITH THE ISRAELIS.

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AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: THE EGYPTIANS ARE VERY MUCH DISTRESSED ABOUT THIS, SINCE THEY SEEM TO BELIEVE THAT WITHOUT THE WELLS IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT IF NOT IMPOSSIBLE TO OPERATE THE OIL FIELDS.

6. SAUDIS TO FORBID AGENT'S FEES

SAUDI DEFENSE MINISTER PRINCE SULTAN TOLD AMBASSADOR AKINS SEPTEMBER 14:

--THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS HAS DECIDED TO FORBID ALL AGENT'S FEES ON ALL MILITARY CONTRACTS FROM NOW ON.

--HE EXPECTS THIS DECREE TO BE ISSUED IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 17.

7. UDI FOR TURKISH CYPRIOTS?

REUTER REPORTS THAT THE TURKISH MFA HAS ANNOUNCED THAT THE GOT WOULD RESPECT A DECISION BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOT

CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO DECLARE THE TURKISH PORTION
OF CYPRUS AN INDEPENDENT STATE. IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS:

--RAUF DENKTASH DECLARED THAT HE WILL SEEK AUTHORITY
FROM THE CONSTITUENT ASSEMBLY TO DECLARE INDEPENDENCE
WHEN HE RETURNS TO NICOSIA ON WEDNESDAY.

--DENKTASH TOLD REUTER THAT HE SEES INDEPENDENCE AS
"THE ONLY WAY OUT" OF THE CYPRUS DEADLOCK.

POLITICAL OBSERVERS FEEL THAT HE IS CERTAIN TO OBTAIN
THE ASSEMBLY'S CONSENT. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS SUMMARIES, TODEP 107
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE218828
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O:RBELL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750318-0894
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750951/aaaabtmg.tel
Line Count: 235
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 5
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <30 SEP 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PECIAL SUMMARY NUMBER 13 FOR THE DEPUTY SECRETARY: TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, SOPN, (INGERSOLL, ROBERT S)
To: BUDAPEST
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006